

Environmental and Security Aspects of Developing Russia's Arctic Energy Resources

12-13 November, NK10 (New King's)

Rosneft's recent announcement on successful oil exploration in the Russian Arctic, together with first shipments from Gazprom's Prirazlomnoye field, generates fundamental questions regarding the environmental integrity of oil and gas exploitation in the highly sensitive Arctic ecosystem. Rosneft operated in cooperation with ExxonMobil within the framework of an agreement governing the development of Russia's Arctic energy resources. US/EU sanctions on Russia jeopardise the involvement of US/EU companies and technology in future energy exploration and exploitation in the Russian Arctic – reinforcing concerns on the environmental integrity of these projects. The EU – as one of the main consumers and importers of fossil fuel – has a responsibility regarding the ecological impact associated with the production of the goods it consumes, as illustrated by the recent debate on the regulation of EU imports of biofuels and oil sands. The present workshop is intended to analyse the dynamic relationship between EU and Russia regarding Arctic energy. It examines the influence that the EU can have on energy developments in the Russian Arctic from the perspective of environmental protection and geopolitics.

Program

12 November, **Part 1: The geopolitical perspective**

16.00-17.00 Guest Lecture, Andrei Belyi, Centre for EU-Russia Studies, University of Tartu, "Russian Oil and Gas in the New International Context: the Impact of Sanctions on Arctic Energy"

13 November, **Part 2: The environmental protection perspective**

16.30-16.50 Opening Remarks by John Paterson, Co-director Aberdeen Centre for Energy Law

16.50-17.20 Guest Presentation, Nengye Liu, Marie Curie Research Fellow, University of Dundee, "The EU and an Enhanced Governance of Offshore Oil and Gas Operations in the Changing Arctic"

17.20-17.40 Greg Gordon, "EU Offshore Safety Directive and its Implications on the Exploitation of Arctic Energy"

17.40-17.55 Coffee-break

17.55-18.15 Olivia Woolley, "Should Arctic Oil Be Exploited? An Ecological Governance Perspective"

18.15-18.35 Anatole Boute and Daria Shapovalova, "The EU's Moral Responsibility: Banning Imports of Russian Arctic Oil"

18.35-19.00 Q&A

Questions on this event should be directed to daria.shapovalova@abdn.ac.uk.